

Commercial:

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

• Hongkong and Shanghai Bank—153 per cent.
premium, ex div., sellers.

• Union Insurance Society of Canton—87½ per
share, sellers.

• China Traders' Insurance Company—86½ per
share, sellers.

South China Insurance—Tls. 265 per share,
Tls.
Canton Insurance Company, Limited—\$75 per
share
Vanguard Insurance Association—Tls. 108 per
share, sellers.
Chinese Insurance Company—\$200 per share
sellers.
On Tai Insurance Company, Limited—Tls. 150
per share.
Hongkong Fire Insurance Company—\$340 per
share, ex div.
China Fire Insurance Company—\$73 per share,
ex div., buyers.
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, 51
per cent. premium, ex div., buyers.
Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Co.
—\$260 per share, buyers.
Shanghai Fire Insurance Co., Limited—66

China and Japan Steam Ship Company, — per share.
Hongkong Gas Company,—\$130 per share.
Hongkong Hotel Company,—\$195 per share, sellers.
Indo-China Steam Navigation Company, Limited—15 per cent. dis. buyers.
Douglas Steamship Company,—\$50 per share, sellers.
China Sugar Refining Company, Limited—\$159 per share, buyers.
Luzon Sugar Refining Company, Limited—\$40 per share, sellers.
Hongkong Ice Company,—\$54 per share, ex. div., sellers.
Hongkong and China Bakery Company, Limited,—790 per share.
Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 A—2 per cent. premium.
Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 B—3 per cent. premium.
Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 C—9 per cent. premium, buyers.
Chinese Imperial Loan of 1886 E—91 per cent. premium.
Hankow Wo-Boe Manufacturing Company, Limited—\$49 per share.
Hankow Wo-Ming and Smelting Company—\$20 per share.
Pamun and Sanghe Dwa Samantan Mining Co., Ltd.—\$111 per share, sellers.
Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company—44 per cent. premium, buyers.

EXCHANGE.	
On London, Bank, T. T.	3/01
Bank bills, on demand	3/01
Do do, 30 days' sight	3/01
Do do, 60 days' sight	3/01
Do do, 90 days' sight	3/01
On Paris, Bank, T. T.	5/11
Bank bills, on demand	3/85
Do do, at a month's sight	3/90
On Brisa, T. T.	221
Do do, on demand	220 1/2
Do do, 30 days' sight	72 1/2
Do do, 60 days' sight	73

* **OPTIM MARKET.—THIS DAY.**
 NEW MALWA per picul, \$575 to \$592
 (Allowance, Taels 60).
 OLD MALWA per picul, \$560
 (Allowance, Taels 55).
 NEW PATNA, (without choice) per chest \$488
 NEW PATNA, (best choice) per chest \$501
 NEW PATNA, (bottom) per chest \$478
 NEW PATNA, (second choice) per chest \$486
 NEW BIKANERS, (without choice) per chest \$490
 NEW BIKANERS, (bottom) per chest \$490
 NEW PERSIAN (best quality) per picul \$750
 OLD PERSIAN (best quality) per picul \$650
 OLD PERSIAN (second quality) per picul \$450

to \$550

Post Office.

A MAIL WILL CLOSE

For Singapore and London.—Per *Diamed*, to-morrow, the 8th instant, at 11.30 A.M.

For Shanghai.—Per *Fushun*, to-morrow, the 8th instant, at 4.30 P.M.

For Singapore, Thursday Island, Cocktown, Townsville, Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, &c. &c., &c.—Per *Taiyuan*, to-morrow, the 8th instant, at 5.00 P.M.

For Haiphong.—Per *Frejre*, to-morrow, the 8th instant, at 5.00 P.M.

For Swatow and Tientsin.—Per *Pechili*, on Friday, the 9th instant, at 3.30 A.M.

For Swatow and Shanghai.—Per *Fookiang*, on Friday, the 9th instant, at 11.30 A.M.

For Shanghai.—Per *Amey*, on Friday, the 9th instant, at 3.30 P.M.

For Saigon.—Per *Clara*, on Friday, the 9th instant, at 5.00 P.M.

For Swatow and Bangkok.—Per *Drauwongse*, on Friday, the 9th instant, at 5.00 P.M.

For Singapore.—Per *Polyhymnia*, on Saturday, the 10th instant, at 3.30 P.M.

For Straits Settlements.—Per *Haiphong*, on Saturday, the 10th instant, at 3.30 P.M.

For Yokohama, Honolulu, and San Francisco.—Per *Gaelic*, on Wednesday, the 14th instant, at 2.30 P.M.

For Europe, &c.—Per *Clyde*, on Wednesday, the 14th instant, at 5.00 P.M.

For Nagasaki, Kobe, and Yokohama.—Per *Thloe*, on Friday, the 16th instant, at 5.00 P.M.

For Europe, &c.—Per *Sachsen*, on Monday, the 19th instant, at 3.00 P.M.

For Europe, &c., Australia, Madras, Calcutta, and Mauritius.—Per *Anadyr*, on Wednesday, the 21st instant, at 11.00 A.M.

Shipping.

ARRIVALS.

DIOMED, British steamer, 1,472, E. Bigley, 6th
March.—Shanghai, and Amoy 5th March
General.—Butterfield & Swire.

DECCAN, British steamer, 2,032, P. W. Caze, 6th
March.—London, Bombay 17th Feb., and
Singapore 1st March, Malls and General.—
P. & O. S. N. Co.

CLARA, German steamer, 674, Christensen, 5th
March.—Saigon 1st March, Rice.—Siem-
sen & Co.

FUSHUN, Chinese steamer, 1,503, A. Croad, 7th
March.—Whampoa 7th March; General.—
C. M. S. N. Co.

FOKIEH, British steamer, 509, J. S. Roach, 7th
March.—Tamsui 3rd March, Amoy 5th, and
Swatow 6th, General.—D. Lapraké & Co.

NINGPO, British steamer, 762, Tindel, 7th
March.—Shanghai 4th March, General.—
Siemssen & Co.

ELECTRA, German steamer, 1,186, Madsen, 7th
March.—Hamburg 20th January, and St.
Petersburg 1st March, General.—Siemssen
& Co.

LINNET, British gun-vessel, and-class, 756 ton
1,050 horse-power, 5 guns, Commander V.
H. Marnack, R.N., 7th March.—Shanghai
3rd March.

PHOTOS, German steamer, 1,093, C. Sorensen,
7th March.—Saigon and March, Rice and
Paddy.—Ed. Schellbass & Co.,
SAIGON, AT THE HARBOUR OFFICE.
Marie, German steamer, for Saigon.
Telemachus, British steamer, for Amoy.
Formosa, British steamer, for Swatow, &c.
Diomed, British steamer, for Singapore.
China, German steamer, for Singapore.
British steamer, for Bangkok.

March 6, *Seowho*, British steamer, for Hoihow
 March 6, *Fero*, German steamer, for Saigon.
 March 6, *Heug*, German steamer, for Tientsin.
 March 7, *Deeddale*, British str., for Shanghai.
 March 7, *Lohnbar*, British str., for Saigon.
 March 7, *Fushun*, Chinese str., for Whampoa.
 March 7, *Bismarck*, German corvette, for Amoy.
 March 7, *Carola*, German corvette, for Amoy.
 March 7, *Saphallen*, French str., for Saigon and
 Marseilles.
 March 7, *Chuan*, German steamer, for Saigon.
 March 7, *Don Juan*, Spanish str., for Amoy, &c.
 March 7, *Maris*, German steamer, for Saigon
 PASSENGERS.—
 Per *Protos*, str., from Saigon.—5 Chinese.
 Per *Electra*, str., from Singapore, &c.—380

Chinese.
Per *Ningpo*, str. from Shanghai.—Captain
Drews, Mr. Brun Williams, and 20 Chinese.
Per *Pokien*, str. from Tamsui, &c.—159 Chi-
nese.
Per *Diomey*, str. from Shanghai, &c.—777
Chinese.
Per *Decan*, str. from London.—For Hong-
kong.—Messrs. L. Allen and M. Allen, Mr.
Harkin, and Staff-Commander Moore, R.N.
from Bombay.—Lieut.-Colonel and Mrs. Craister,
Miss Springle and amah, Messrs. S. Dey, M.
Jazir, A. Dawood, M. Rahim, H. Khakee,
and Alla uka. From Colombo.—Messrs. Nestle,
Gillie, Leigh, Mowbray, and McGowan. From
Singapore.—Mr. and Mrs. Beninger, Messrs. A.
Sankey, F. A. Gregson, O. Y. Seng, and 70 Chi-
nese. From London.—For Yokohama.—Mrs.
McLeod, Misses McRae, Irwinstone Parker, and
Dunkley, Messrs. C. C. Nigles, Gustave W.
Short, and Ah Yau. From Naples.—Lord de
Clarendon, Mrs. Kirkess, Miss Burnett, Messrs.
Perry and servant, and Kerr. From Surz.—
Messrs. O. W. Jones and T. W. Jones. From
London.—For Shanghai.—Mr. and Mrs. Pigot,
a son and infant, Mr. and Mrs. Hunt and child,
Mrs. J. Scholefield, governess and 2 children,
Mrs. and Miss Smalley, Misses Guinness, Reed,
Sunderman, Webb, and Deacon, Messrs. J.
Wright, A. Deacon, Calvert, and J. Calvert.

DEPARTED.

Per *Saghalien*, str. from Hongkong.—For

Saigon.—Messrs. J. P. Girard and Genée. For Singapore.—Mlle. Sir G. Des Vaux and servant, M. J. D. Anderson, A.D.C., Messrs. A. M. de Silva and servant, for Penang, and servant, Mr. James Carr and servant, Whang Fook, On Chee Chan and J. McTear. For Luzon.—Messrs. Meyner, Dupont, a d. Dijoux. For Marcellies. Captain and Mrs. Barbosa, sister and children. Mr. and Mrs. Van der Haert. Mrs. Choy Chume, Colonel Gros, Commandant Rolland, Captains Garceau and F. P. Sardinha. Messrs. Louis Pila, W. Kingston, S. S. Cammings, Cuddebo, J. da Silva (the Governor of Macao), Jacques, and Mr. de la Roche. For Nagasaki.—Messrs. Bessé, P. M. Roussel, M. H. Pére and Mr. Gardallumme. From Yokohama.—For Saigon.—Mr. Houston Lang. From Saigon.—Mr. Davis, From Kobe.—Foi Saigon.—Messrs. Meillon Eue-ne, Jobile Louis, and Chalmy Jules. For Singapore. Messrs. Yamano, Fukuda, and Suyenaga.

Per Alaria, str., fr. Saigon.—100 Chinese.

TO DEPART.

Per Telendehus, str., for Amoy.—125 Chinese.

Per Fornosa, str., for Swatow, &c.—6 Egyptians and 7 Chinese.

Per Diana, str., for Singapore.—1 European.

Per Barman, str., for Bangkok.—20 Chinese.

REPORTS.

The German steamship *Electra* reports that she left Hamburg on the 20th January, and Singapore on the 31st instant. Had strong north-east monsoon.

The German-steamship *Prinzess* reports that she left Saigon on the 1st instant. From Saigon to latitude 16° 45' she had light easterly winds; thence fresh and strong north-east wind, with high sea to port.

The British steamship *Ningpo* reports that she left Shanghai on the 4th instant at 3 a.m. Had strong breeze from north-west to Tungsha Lightship; afterwards strong monsoon and fine weather all way down.

The British steamship *Fokien* reports that she left Tamsui on the 3d instant, Amoy on the 6th, and Swatow on the 6th. From Tamsui to Amoy had light variable winds and foggy weather. From Amoy to Swatow had fresh north-westerly gale and dull clear weather. From Swatow to port had fresh north-easterly wind and fine clear weather. In Tamsui, the steamships *Fecheu*, *Tahanki*, and *Woyling*. In Swatow, the steamships *Tamsui*, *Hohow*, *Nanshan*, and *Fidelfi*.

SHIPPING IN HONGKONG

SHIPMERS

ASHBURN, British steamer, 1,613, John Walker, 29th Feb.,—Saloon 24th Feb., Rice and Paddy.—Butterfield & Swire.

CHI-YUEN, Chinese steamer, 1,211, R. Noll, 24th March.—Penang 25th February, and Singapore 27th, General.—C. M. S. N. Co.

DEVAYONGSE, British steamer, 1,956, Lopp, 4th March.—Glasgow 13th Jan., and Singapore 27th Feb, General.—Yuen Fat Hong.

FAME, British steamer, 1,174, A. Stopant.—Hong-kong and Whampoa Dock Co.

FORMOSA, British steamer, 687, P. Hall, 1st March.—S. S. Low 29th Feb., General.—D. LaPrück & Co.

FREY, Danish steamer, 597, C. A. Luid, 5th Feb.,—Haiphong 2nd March, and Hoihow 4th, General.—Arnhold, Karberg & Co.

GÆLIC, British steamer, 4,205, G. G. Peapack, 1st March.—San Francisco 31st Feb., and Yokohama 25th, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. B. Co.

HAIPHONG, British steamer, 1,122, Harris, 3rd March.—Saloon 27th Feb., Rice and Paddy.—D. LaPrück & Co.

JIUNTINDONG, British steamer, 1,643, J. Brunsdon, 4th Feb.,—Calcutta 12th Feb., Opium and General.—D. Sassoon, Sons & Co.

JUSSUS, French steamer, 779, Rosa, 19th Sept.—Singapore 2nd September, General.—Bun Hin Chan.

KHIVA, British steamer, 1,452, Edward Crewe, 4th March.—Bombay 15th Feb., and Singapore 26th, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

MONGKUT, British steamer, 859, G. Anderson, 6th March.—Bangkok 29 th Feb., Rice.—Yuen Fat Hong.

NARKHIA, British steamer, 3,035, James Arnold, 26th March.—S. S. Low 4th Feb., General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

PEMPTOS, German steamer, 1,541, W. Johannsen, 26th Feb.,—Saloon 21st Feb., Rice.—Ed. Schellhaus & Co.

PILOT FISH, British steamer, 161, A. Stopant.—Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co.

POLYVARNIA, German steamer, 1,053, W. Schaefer, 6th March.—Rode 28th Feb., General.—S. S. Low & Co.

HONGKONG-STEAMERS.
Continued.
SARTHE, French steamer, 479, Parreau, 6th March.—Ilolo 1st March, General.—A. R. May.
SEPTIMA, German steamer, 780, P. Hansen, 7th March.—Salgon 19th February, Rice.—Geo. R. Stevens & Co.
TAISANG, British steamer, 1,505, Wood, 21st Feb.—Calcutta 5th Feb., and Singapore 1st, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

TAIWAN, British steamer, 1,169, T. H. Clegg,
5th March.—Saigon 28th February, Rice.—
Chinese.

TAIYUAN, Chinese steamer, —, W. M. Dodd,
24th Feb.—Sydney 31st Jan., General.—
C. N. Co.

TELEMACHUS, British steamer, 1,417, H. Jones,
6th March.—Singapore 25th Feb., General.
Butterfield & Swire.

TETARTOS, German steamer, 1,578, T. Petersen,
6th March.—Nagasaki 1st March, Coals.—
Takatsuna Colliery.

THYRA, German steamer, 651, E. A. Jacobsen,
4th March.—Saigon 28th February, Rice.—
Siemens & Co.

WYVERN, British steamer, 1,108, J. Brotherton,
2nd March.—Bangkok 23rd Feb., Rice.—
Tung Kee.

ALDEN BESS, American bark, 812, J. A. O'Brien, 4th Dec.,—Poulet Sound 2nd Oct., and Honolulu 28th, Timber and Spars.—Melchers & Co.

ARON, Norwegian bark, 634, A. Christensen, 3rd March,—Singapore 12th January, Timber.—Chinese.

B. P. CHENY, American ship, 1,259, Hughes, 25th Jan.,—New York 17th August, Kerosene Oil.—D. Lapraik & Co.

CENTINALL, American ship, 1,222, J. M. Bearse, 27th Jan.,—New York 18th Sept., Kerosene Oil.—Russell & Co.

CLAN GRANT, British bark, 1,365, Moody, 13th Dec.,—London 10th July, General Order.

COLON, American bark, 852, C. M. Noyes, 27th Dec.,—Portland (Oregon) 20th Oct., Lumber and Spars.—Melchers & Co.

DOROTHEA, German bark, 620, H. Th. Moeller, 29th Jan.,—Hamburg 29th Sept., General.—Siemssen & Co.

EMIR, British bark, 778, W. Lummers, 23d Jan.,—London 5th Oct., General.—Captain.

ERLKOXNIK, Chinese bark, 457, Opium—Examination hulk, Stonecutters' Island.—Chinese Customs.

F. P. LITCHFIELD, American bark, 1,012, Young, 15th Feb.,—Singapore 2nd January, Timber.—Tong & W. & Co.

GREAT ADMIRAL, American ship, 1,497, Bowell, 17th Feb.,—San Francisco 21st December.—Russell & Co.

HATTIE E. TAPLEY, British bark, 907, J. McCannachy, 23rd Feb.—Sandakan 17th Jan., Timber.—Gibb, Livingston & Co.

JOHN D. BREWER, American bark, 1020, Josselyn, 11th Jan.—New York 4th August. Kerosene Oil.—Order.

JOHN M. BLAKIE, British ship, 1,778, Faulkner, 29th June, Coal.—

Horacio Co., Limited

KITV, British bark, 803, Laud, 20th August.—Manila 10th August, Sugar and Hemp.—Captain.

MADEL TAYLOR British bark, 1,298 Chas. E. Denper, 28th Jan.—Penang 17th August. Coal.—Order.

MANUEL, Spanish bark, 992, R. Estival, 6th Jan.—Manila 27th Dec., Sapanwood.—K. H. & Co.

RIALTO, British bark, 1,182, J. E. Payne, 3rd Jan.—Melbourne 25th Oct., Ballast.—Order.

SANTA FILOMENA, Spanish steamer, 449, J. de Mendiguer, 24th Jan.—Hollo 31st Dec., General.—Kwong Cheong Tak.

SENTA, German bark, 1,037, Tiemann, 26th Jan.—Cardiff 4th September, Coals.—Order.

SIAM, British bark, 295, Ch. Lange, 20th Jan.—Bangkok 21st November, Teak Wood.—

Captain.
THOROD RUEGER, German ship, 1,576, C. Meyer, 31st Dec., Cardiff 5th August.
Coals.—Melchers & Co.
TITAN, American ship, 1,276, Allyn, 28th Jan.—
New York 28th August, Kerosene Oil.—
Russell & Co
XENIA, American ship, 1,135, N. E. Reynolds,
 27th Feb., Nagasaki 20th Feb. Coal—
Captain.

HER BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S SHIPS IN THE CHINA SQUADRON.

Alacrity, despatch-vessel, 1,400 tons, 3,180 h-p, 4 guns, Commander R. Blair Macdonochie, Singapore.
Audacious, battle-ship (armoured), 2nd-class, 6,910 tons, 8,320 h-p., 16 guns, Captain R. H. Harris, Flag of Commander-in-Chief, Singapore.
Cockchafer, gunboat, 2nd-class, 460 tons, 470 h-p., 4 guns, Lieut.-Commander H. H. Boteler, Hongkong.
Constance, cruiser, 3rd-class, 2,380 tons, 2,590 h-p., 14 guns, Captain L. C. Keppel, en route

Comet, cruiser, 3rd-class, 2,370 tons, 2,420 h-p, 10 guns, Captain H. H. Boys, Shanghai.
Eak, gunboat, 3rd-class, Coast Defence, 363 tons, 430 h-p, 3 guns, Gunner W. Weeks, Hongkong, in reserve.
Esport, gunboat, 2nd-class, 455 tons, 470 h-p, 6 guns, Lieutenant-Comdr. H. H. Adams, Vangtze.
Firebrand, gunboat, 3rd-class, 455 tons, 460 h-p, 4 guns, Lieutenant-Comdr. J. Denison, Manila, re-commissioning.
Heroine, cruiser, 3rd-class, 1,420 tons, 1,130 h-p, 8 guns, Captain Charles J. Ralston, en route to Singapore.
London, cruiser, 2nd-class, 3,750 tons, 5,500 h-p, 10 guns, Captain M. J. Dunlop, Japan.
Lioness, gun-vessel, 2nd-class, 756 tons, 1,050 h-p, 5 guns, Commander W. H. Marrack, Hongkong.
Martin, gunboat, 3rd-class, 430 tons, 430 h-p, 4 guns, Lieut.-Comdr. W. H. Maturin, Tientsin.
Mutine, sloop, 1,130 tons, 1,120 h-p, 10 guns, Commander J. H. Martin, Singapore.
Orion, battle-ship (armoured), 3rd-class, 4,870 tons, 4,450 h-p, 4 guns, Captain J. H. Royle, Singapore.
Ramph, surveying-vessel, 830 tons, 600 h-p, 6 guns, Commander W. A. Moore, Borneo.
Rattler, cruiser, 1st-class, 670 tons, 1,200 h-p, 6 guns, Lieutenant-Commander W. H. M. Dougal, Hongkong.
Sapphire, cruiser, 3rd-class, 1,070 tons, 2,360 h-p, 12 guns, Captain W. C. Karslake, Hongkong.
Satellite, cruiser, 3rd-class, 1,420 tons, 1,400 h-p, 8 guns, Captain T. P. W. Neish, Shanghai.
Swift, gun-vessel, 2nd-class, 750 tons, 1,010 h-p, 6 guns, Commander C. B. Bromley, Hongkong, re-commissioning.
Tweed, gunboat, Coast Defence, 3rd-class, 363 tons, 430 h-p, 3 guns, Boatwain J. M. Shea, Hongkong, in reserve.
Victor Emanuel, receiving ship, 5,175 tons, 20 guns, Commodore W. H. Maxwell, A.D.C., Hongkong.
Wanderer, sloop, 925 tons, 750 h-p, 4 guns, Commander G. A. Gifford, Hongkong, re-commissioning.
Wivern, Coast Defence ship (armoured), 2,750 tons, 1,450 h-p, 4 guns, Gunner D. W. Hawkins, Hongkong, in reserve.

STEAMERS EXPECTED	
STEAMERS.	FROM.
Port Philip	London
Electra	Hamburg
Diagno	Genoa
Stentor	Liverpool
Titania	Trieste
City of New York	San Francisco

STEAMERS' LOADIN.	
DESTINATION.	VESSELS.
London, &c., via Suez Canal	Clyde
Bremen, & Ports of Call.	Sachsen
Glasgow, & Ports of Call.	Diagnon
Havre, Hamburg, &c.	Polyhymnia
Trieste, via Straits, &c.	Thania
Bombay, B.C. via S. &c.	Enthia
New York, via Suez Canal	Clenroy
San Francisco, via Y'hanna	Gaelic
San Francisco, via Y'hanna	City of New York
Sydney and Melbourne	Afghan
Queensland Ports, &c.	Taiyuan
Calcutta, via Straits.	Huntingdon
Singapore and Penang.	Haiphong
Yokohama and Kobe	Port Phillip
Yokohama, via N'saki, &c.	Thibet
Tientsin, via Swatow	Pechili
Shanghai	Decan
Shanghai	Amoy
Shanghai, via Amoy	Telamon
Shanghai, via Amoy	Stentor
Shanghai, via Swatow.	Fooksang
Manila, via Amoy.	Don Juan
Saigon	Clara
Haiphong	Frejre
Swatow, Singapore, &c.	Devawongse
Swatow, Amoy, &c.	Formosa

Intimate

W. POWELL

FOR THE

GENTS TALL HATS.	
1. " BLACK FELT HATS.	
2. " COLOURED FELT HATS.	
3. " STRAW HATS.	
4. " TIE HATS.	

= SCARFS, TIES and ROSETTES made to order
BRIDLES TRIMMED.

W. POWELL

VICTORIA EXCHANGE,
(TELEPHONE 21) Hongkong, 18th February, 1898

THE IRON CLAD

CHEAP HEAT.

\$: 50.

The Most Marvellous Combination of
Heat and Light ever known

FOR SALE by

MU

Shanghai, 8th-February, 1888.

**I N T E R I O R A R T
D E C O R A T I O N S .
S P E C I A L N O T I C E**

Mr. W. S. Marten,
THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
Hall & Holtz Co., Ltd.,
OF
SHANGHAI,
IS NOW IN
HONGKONG
FOR THE PURPOSE OF
COMPLETING XTENE-
SIVE CONTRACTS IN
DECORATING, &c.

M^R. MARTEN is accompanied by an
experienced staff of Workmen, and all

work undertaken will be carefully carried out under his own personal supervision.

Amongst the numerous large orders that have recently been completed by the HALL & HOLTZ COMPANY, we may mention the LYCEUM THEATRE, SHANGHAI, the whole of the Ball Rooms, and the principal Hongs in that Settlement as examples that have given universal satisfaction.

All kinds of ART and DECORATIVE FURNITURE, made of the finest seasoned woods and in the latest and most fashionable styles by thoroughly experienced workmen, supplied on terms that defy competition in the Far East.

The Factory having been enlarged to double its former size, we can now furnish a HALL, DRAWING ROOM, DINING-ROOM and BEDROOM COMPLETE, with CARPETS, &c., for Taels 350—Shanghai Price.

For all further information, plans, drawings and estimates, apply at

— MESSRS. LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.'S —
Hongkong, 31st October, 1887. [30]

FOR SALE.

AT WHOLESALE PRICES.

**SACCONES' SHERRY, PORT,
CLARETS, CHAMPAGNE,
HOCKS, BURGUNDY,
BRANDY, WHISKIES, ALE, STOUT,
MACHINERY, COOKING STOVES,
SALES, BICYCLES, AND TRICYCLES,
PAINTS, OILS, VARNISH,
PIANOS, SINGER'S SEWING MACHINES.**

Apply to

W. G. HUMPHREYS & Co.,
Bank Buildings.
Hongkong, 19th December, 1889. [11]

IN HONGKONG.		
DATE DUE.		AGENTS.
March 7th	Adamson, Bell & Co.	N
March 7th	Siemssen & Co.	
March 9th	Carlowitz & Co.	
March 11th	Butterfield & Swire.	
March 11th	Austro-Hung. Lloyd's Co.	
March 13th	Pacific Mail S. S. Co.	

IN HONGKONG.	
AGENTS.	DATE OF LEAVING.
P. & O. S. N. Co.	Mar. 15th, daylight.
Melchers & Co.	Mar. 19th, at 4 p.m.
Carlwitz & Co.	Mar. 16th, at 10 a.m.
Wernsmann & Co.	Mar. 10th, at 4 p.m.
Post-Hung Lloyd Co.	Mar. 15th, at noon.
Madison, Bell & Co.	Mar. 15th, at 3 p.m.
Madison, Matheson & Co.	About 15th Mar.
P. & O. S. N. Co.	Mar. 14th, at 3 p.m.
Pacific Mail S. S. Co.	Mar. 24th, at 3 p.m.
Gibb, Livingston & Co.	Mar. 21st, at 4 p.m.
Butterfield & Swire	To-morrow, at 4 p.m.
O. Sassoon, Sons & Co.	Mar. 14th, at noon.
Mathon Yn & Co.	Mar. 10th, at 4 p.m.
Madison, Bell & Co.	To-morrow.
P. & O. S. N. Co.	Mar. 17th, daylight.
Madison, Matheson & Co.	Mar. 9th, at noon.
P. & O. S. N. Co.	To-morrow, daylight.
Madison, Matheson & Co.	Mar. 9th, at 4 p.m.
Butterfield & Swire	To-morrow, daylight.
Butterfield & Swire	March 13th.
Madison, Matheson & Co.	Mar. 9th, at noon.
Grandao & Co.	To-morrow, at 2 p.m.
Yong Shing	Mar. 9th, at 5 p.m.
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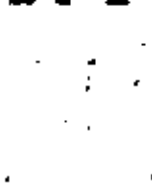

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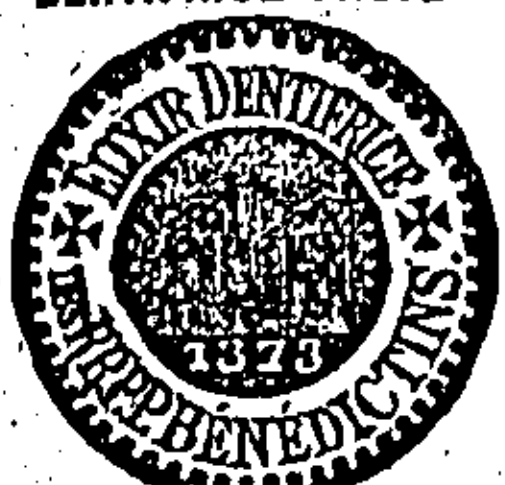
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Hongkong, 2nd November, 1887. [31

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For Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7, 1888.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter.)

THE SITUATION IN EUROPE

LONDON, March 5th.

It is expected that the Russian proposals will end without result, and in the meanwhile Warsaw is being largely virtualized.

MORE FIGHTING IN SUKIN.

More fighting has taken place at Sukin and the enemy has again retired.

(From Straits Times.)

THE BULGARIAN QUESTION.

CONSTANTINOPLE, February 27th.

The Russian Ambassador (M. de Néidoff) has formally invited the Porte to declare Prince Ferdinand's rule illegal.

The invitation is endorsed by Herr von Radowitz and the Comte de Montebello.

THE SUEZ CANAL.

LONDON, February 27th.

England and France are exchanging views regarding the amendments to the Suez Canal convention proposed by the Porte.

RUSSIA AND TURKEY.

CONSTANTINOPLE, February 28th.

It is not expected that the Porte will comply with Mr. de Néidoff's invitation, but that it will temporize. The other Ambassadors remain aloof.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

H.M.S. *Linnet* left Shanghai for the South of the Strait.

An agricultural Congress will be held at Manila in April next.

The Governor of Macao and suite returned to Singapore from Bangkok on the 26th ult. His Excellency was to proceed to Timor by the first opportunity.

We are informed by the General Managers (Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.) that the Indo-China Steam Navigation Co.'s steamer *Kutsang*, from Calcutta, left Singapore for Hongkong this afternoon.

The Tientsin correspondent of the Shanghai *Mercury* learns that Li Hung-chang is at present in feeble health. It is rumored that the great Viceroy's indisposition is owing to worries in connection with the Yellow River inundations.

WITH an admirably drilled army of 100,000 men on a peace footing, a navy to which constant additions are being made, mostly from British ship-yards, and her forty-nine fertile provinces now linked by railways, Spain—in the Elizabethan age England's greatest rival—seems to be resuming her position as a great Continental Power.

GOVERNOR DES VOUX left for Singapore to-day by the Messageries Maritimes steamer *Saghalien* on a short leave of absence. His Excellency embarked on the Government steam launch at Murray Pier, where a number of leading officials had assembled to bid him 'good bye,' shortly after 11.30, and proceeded on board the mail steamer, the Wellington battery firing a salute as the launch left the wharf. Lady Des Voux is a passenger for Hongkong by the P. and O. Co.'s steamer *Kaisar-i-Hind*, and His Excellency will return to Hongkong by that vessel.

THE *Chinese Times* says that the stocks of Kaiping coal in Tientsin have run short, and fears are expressed that if the river opens late the community will be put to serious straits for wants of fuel. The railway, when completed will no doubt cheapen the cost, as well as give a regular and unfailing supply. The charge for coal in household accounts is a very serious item of expense, particularly as owing to the deprivations of servants one-ton in Tientsin does not last as long as ten hundred weight does in England.

THE *Courier d'Haiphong* informs us that the Governor-General of French Indo-China has entered into an agreement with Messrs. Marty and d'Abbadie for the extension of their line of river steamers and for the transport of troops and commissariat stores. There will be six trips each week from Haiphong to Hanoi, and three from Hanoi to Phu-lanh-thuong; three from the Seven Pagodas to Dap-cau; three from Hung-yen to Nam-dinh; three from Hanoi to Bac-hat; one from Bac-hat to Cho-bo; one from Bac-hat to Tuyen-quan; one from Bac-hat to Tan-quan; one from Nam-dinh to Vinh. A subsidy will be granted to Messrs. Marty and d'Abbadie of 350,000 francs per annum.

THE P. & O. S. Co.'s steamer *City of New York*, with mails, &c., from San Francisco, has arrived at Yokohama, and left for Hongkong this morning.

A TELEGRAM dated the 26th ult. reports that the French steamer *Suez* had foundered off Lisbon, only twelve people being saved. The *Suez* was a steamer of 1,387 tons net, built at Newcastle in 1879, and belonging to Messrs. D'Oreilly et Sanstia Fil.

THAT one man's ruin may be another's gain, remarks our Tientsin contemporary, is exemplified by the fact that the Shantung agriculturists, since the break of the Yellow River bank near Kaileng-fu, have had their grounds cleared of water, and on some farms that had been under water and unfit for any sort of cultivation for four or five years past the farmers actually sowed seed in the late autumn, and expect good crops in the spring.

THE *Independents* reports a murder committed in Macao on Saturday last under the following circumstances: A Chinese policeman named Pouseng, after engaging in a dispute with a group of Celestials in a bachelors' house, was entering a native shop when a revolver shot was fired at him by some one. The whole group then followed him to the shop. The bullet took deadly effect on the constable. A Chinese was subsequently arrested, and a revolver with two exploded chambers was found in his possession.

THE most uproarious political meeting ever held in Dundee is stated to have taken place on the 31st January when General Daly, the Unionist and Conservative candidate, appeared to open his campaign. Upwards of an hour before the opening of the meeting a large crowd forced its way into the hall, and when the General and his friends appeared on the platform the building was packed by upwards of 3,000 people, numbers of whom indulged in all kinds of uproar and noise. The uproar continuing, General Daly abruptly concluded by wishing his audience "Good-bye." Many seats in the hall were smashed.

THE *Foehow Echo* of the February 25th says:—The report given by native papers that the losses of the *Foehow* team during last season amounted to \$300,000, cannot be true, for if such were the case, we fear there will be no native teamers left for the coming season. When a Chinaman says that he has lost the above mentioned, or any other amount, we must understand that he means he could not squeeze that amount from us. We doubt not that some of our native teamers did suffer severe loss, but to such an alarming amount is next to impossible. The actual loss, we are given to understand, does not exceed \$50,000, and this amount is shared by a few teamers, while many, as usual, made their fortunes.

PURSUANT to the Circular issued to-day by the Clerk of Councils, a meeting of the Executive Council was held to-day at 4 p.m., when the Hon. F. Stewart, Colonial Secretary took the oath as Officer Administering the Government in the absence of His Excellency the Governor. There were present in the Council Room: General Cameron, Mr. J. Russell, Acting Chief Justice, Mr. E. L. O'Malley, Attorney General, Mr. A. Lister, Colonial Treasurer, Capt. H. G. Thomson, R.N., Harbour Master, Mr. J. M. Price, Surveyor-General, Capt. W. M. Deane, Superintendent of Police, Messrs. C. P. Chubb, A. P. McEwen, and Wang Shing (unofficial members). The Clerk of Councils read the Royal Commission empowering the Colonial Secretary to administer the Government in the absence of the Governor, after which he was duly sworn, and the meeting then dispersed.

SAYS the *Comercio*:—"The Italian Opera Company who are at present performing at the Tondo Theatre in Manila, are complaining of the great number of persons who invade the sancta behind the curtain. The visitors to the stage and its approaches are said to be so numerous as to seriously interfere with the scene shifting and other stage arrangements." It appears that all foreign companies are more or less subject to these stage intrusions. In Manila, a practice which is ridiculously carried out throughout the Continental theatres in Europe, to the great annoyance of actors and actresses. We remember the troubles an English company had some time since in Manila, which arose out of the persistence of one of the local authorities in visiting a certain actress. The same sort of annoyance is evidently being given the Italian Opera singers.

THIS morning a coffin aged 28 was charged with kidnapping a boy of 16 years of age who said he was living in Hongkong with his mother, and that on the 5th inst. while he was playing on the Chinese recreation ground the prisoner accosted him and put seven cents into his hand, observing that the money was for the purpose of buying some food for himself. I went away, said complainant, and the prisoner followed me, subsequently taking me to a house, and on getting inside he said he was going to sell me. He said after I was sold I should be in a position to make money and could then give him some of it. The following day, after keeping me all night in the house, he gave me some cash and told me to go and take a walk, he keeping behind me. This morning my mother came to the house with the police and found me. A Chinese constable said he went to a certain house in the native quarter and found the prisoner, the complainant, and another boy of about the same age. The mother went with him and on finding her son began to cry, imploring the "high binder" to release her son. Defendant said, "all right, if he is your son take him away." Witness then arrested the defendant. Addressing the bench the accused said the reason he took the boy was because a coolie had told him the lad was destitute and asked him to feed him. For this piece of unselfish humanity Mr. Wise committed the prisoner—who admitted to four previous convictions—to prison with hard labour for six months. Another Chinaman, a coolie, was fined for a similar offence.

A *Government Gazette Extraordinary*, issued this afternoon, notifies that the Hon. Frederick Stewart, Colonial Secretary, will administer the Government during the temporary absence of His Excellency the Governor.

COMPARING the relative cost and strength of the French and Italian Navies, a Paris Journalist, M. Lérins, states that the latter Power is both numerically superior and of heavier armament to the floating force of his own country. This state of inferiority the writer declares to be equally perilous and shameful, and he personally advises the French Minister of Marine, by name, to give immediate orders for the reinforcement of the Toulon Squadron to the same number as possessed by Italy, within the next three months.

JOHN O'KEEFE, John Thomson, and Richard Russell, three seamen all described on the Police sheets as Irishmen, were this morning charged by Mr. Moir, superintendent of the Sailor's Home, with being constantly drunk and disorderly. They had been two months in the Home and were, said the complainant, "never sober." Last night they made a great noise and disturbance in one of the rooms of the institution for which the present charge was preferred. The accused had no defence, apology, nor questions of any kind, and were sentenced by Mr. Wise, the first to ten days in gaol, and the other two to four days, with hard labour.

SAYS the *Chinese Times*:—"The authorities have apparently made fairly adequate arrangements for relieving the destitute poor in the townships and villages around Tientsin, as the influx of refugees has been reduced to manageable dimensions. The public kitchens give out very great quantities of wholesome and nourishing, if coarse, food daily, and on the thick gruel made from millet the recipients can sustain not only life but strength also. There was some rumour that public works were to be ordered on a large scale in the Spring for the repair of the Peiho and other river banks, and if these works are made, there will be employment during the Summer and Autumn for some thousands of labourers. The fluvial system of Chihli is in a bad condition, and although the damage done is less than that of the Yellow River flood, it is yet very great. The injury done in the Viceroy Li's government by overflow must amount to many millions of taels in the last year alone, and since 1881 there have been an almost regular yearly succession of inundations.

WHAT can be the matter with the Editor of the *Daily Press*? And where were the talented and experienced at it? The *Press* actually publishes this morning a telegram stating that Mr. Firth, the Home Rule candidate, has been defeated at the Dundee election for a member of Parliament to take Mr. Lacait's seat, by General Daly, a Unionist Tory, by a majority of 3,600 votes. Does the Archdeacon lever of Upper Wyndham Street know where Bonnie Dundee is, and what it is? Evidently not, or he would scarcely have made such a glaring blunder. Dundee is one of the leading Radical strongholds in Scotland, and with its large Irish population is thoroughly in favor of Home Rule. Is this the place, does our contemporary imagine, where a Tory like General Daly would have the slightest chance of election? In another part of this issue will be found a short paragraph giving an account of General Daly's reception by the Dundee electors; perhaps that will convince the *Daily Press*. The real truth is, as our contemporary ought to have known, that Mr. Firth, the Radical, has been elected by the vast majority of 3,600. Again, the *Daily Press* announces that Mr. Biddall, a Conservative, has been elected for West Southwark, beating his Home Rule opponent, Mr. R. K. Causton, by 1,000 votes. This is an equally lamentable display of editorial ignorance. Southwark is about the most Radical borough in all England, and the Home-Rule sympathies of its electors are well known. Of course Mr. Causton was elected, the other man being nowhere. Will our contemporary further enlighten us as to what possible connection there can be between the elevation to the Peerage of Sir Henry Holland and the re-election of Mr. Buchanan for Edinburgh West? We are sadly afraid that there is something amiss with the experienced and talented staff.

THE most important Macao news of the day being the existing conflict between the Government and the Municipality, as reported in our columns yesterday, the silence kept by the Macao correspondent of our morning contemporary over this subject is especially significant and points a moral. The newspapers published in the Holy City are controlled by superior authority, their freedom being only a sham; whenever any important affair is being discussed in administrative circles, the organs of the press entirely lose their faculty of speech. The *Daily Press* correspondent is evidently a myrmidon of the Macao Government, or a Municipal parasite, and he consequently keeps his own counsel over a matter of such a serious character as the probable dissolution of the Municipal chamber, or what the Macaenese style their *Leal Senado*. We have heard enough of the absurdities and anomalies which are inherent to that fossil institution to lead us to think that its early and final dissolution would greatly tend to enforce and strengthen public order in the Holy City. The Senado is supposed to represent the people of Macao; but although would-be representatives may be readily found, where are the people, the merchants, the ship-owners, and the tradesmen who require municipal representation? In a colony where trade is an unknown quantity, where capital is almost exclusively Chinese, where learning is an infinitesimal fraction, and where independence of moral character is an impossibility, municipal institutions are not only useless but may become positively injurious. We are far from being sympathizers with the kind of Government which exists in the neighbouring colony, but we think this measure of dissolving the Corporation will greatly tend to strengthen the administrative authority of the powers that be. A colony without an independent press is unworthy of any privileges, municipal or otherwise.

It is announced that the First Battalion of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders (91st-93rd) will proceed from Ceylon to Hongkong to relieve the 5th Regiment during the present year.

THE following high appointments in the Chinese Government have been published:—Shih-tsing to be Senior Vice-President of the Board of War; Mcin-l, Junior Vice-President of the Board of War; and Ching-fu, Junior Vice-President of the Mongolia office.

THE *Militar-Wochenblatt* devotes a long article to the military question in Eastern Europe, and states that on the confines of the three Powers the peace strength of the Russians reaches 315,500 men, with 689 guns, and that of the Austrians 38,000 men and 333 guns. On the Russo-German frontier the German forces are 81,714 men, 14,510 horses, and 238 guns; while the Russians have 123,275 men, 24,193 horses, and 274 guns.

THE musical reporter of the *China Mail* has made a new discovery. Referring to Monday night's concert at the City Hall, he says:—"As to the programme itself it ought not, strictly speaking, to be criticised at all, in accordance with the conventional mode of dealing with charity concerts, but on this occasion there is some excuse for holding it to be somewhat as it deserves a good deal of praise on its own merits." We don't happen to know who the critical individual may be who wrote this stuff for the *Fish Wrapper*, but we do know that he would have been much better employed in the fish frying line of business than in exposing his childish ignorance and gross stupidity in the columns of what is intended to represent a public newspaper. Who told this know-all that the conventional mode of dealing with Charity Concerts is to exempt them from criticism? What has been the conventional custom of the *China Mail* in such matters? Nine out of every ten concerts given in this colony have been charity concerts, and they have invariably been criticised. Our contemporary, hard up for local matter, has even worked up critiques, or had them worked up by outsiders, of semi-private and religious performances in the Cathedral. And yet we find this booby-aping a profound knowledge of matters critical, and calmly laying it down that entertainments given for charitable purposes ought not to be criticised at all. Were this actually the rule amongst journalists, the Hongkong critics and performers would alike have a very d pressing time; but it is not the rule, and never has been. All public performances are open to criticism, no matter for what object they may be given; so long as the public have to pay for admission no other consideration has the least weight. Private entertainments, where admission is by invitation, such for instance as the enjoyable smoking concerts of the Musical Club and the musical evenings at the Club Germania—are, of course, never subjected to public criticism, unless a desire to that effect is specially expressed. We have read the *China Mail* man's notice of the Charity Concert. He ought to write one more of the same sort, and then speedily terminate his useless existence with an overdose of haggis.

TALKING about the "after-glow" in Egypt, says a contributor to *Cities of the World*, there is probably no view in the universe to equal that from the citadel of Cairo; it is splendid by daylight, but is surpassed by the incredible beauty of sunset and the "after-glow," when the crimson haze of the short Egyptian twilight bathes the whole panorama in colours which would be deemed extravagantly improbable if attempted in a painting—colours which neither Hildebrand nor Holman Hunt have been able to depict effectively and naturally. Often as the after-glow has been described, there is probably no better short, graphic description than this:—"With the drawing out of the evening shadows, a glory of colour comes into the light of the setting sun; purple shadows are cast by the mountains; the reds and grays of sandstone, granite and limestone cliffs blend exquisitely with the tawny yellow of the desert, the rich green of the banks, and the bluish-green of old Nile. The cold grey twilight follows immediately upon sunset—but in a few minutes there is a marvellous change, as if nature had fallen under the spell of the magician's wand. [Earth and sky are suddenly suffused with a delicate tinge of pink, known to Egyptian travellers of culture as the magical and fairy-like after-glow, and peculiarly Egyptian over all other sunsets of the world, where those exquisitely beautiful changes of tint and colour return to the fading lights of day after a short interval of ashen-grey, and like the coming back of rosy life to the pale cheeks of a dying beauty. It would appear sometimes as if the rich tints of pink and gold which flood the landscape could be touched, or as Napoleon said when he stood on the ramparts of the citadel viewing this lovely scene,—"you wave a white towel in the air, and it comes down a veritable Joseph's coat of rich colouring." Let the reader stand on that old historic citadel and take in the view. Immediately under his feet Cairo, with its wonderful buildings, its minarets, its squares, its splotchy dour, and its feathery palm-clumps, intermingled with the tombs of the Mamelukes, rounded, "masculine" picturesquely strutting the plain. Stretching away till it is lost in the haze of distance is the famous valley of old Egypt, the land of the Pharaohs, through which winds the historic, and stately Nile, going ever onward to the sea, its surface dotted with white wings which flash and glitter in the beams of the setting sun; the great riverine high-way from Central Africa to the ocean, shut in by the high irregular ranges of Libyan and Nubian mountains. Eight or nine miles from our standpoint we behold the great Pyramids of Ghizeh; farther along still burning plateau of sand are the still older Pyramids of Saklara; and farther still, phantom-like in the red background of that Libyan desert, are the still more hoary and ancient Pyramids of Abouseir. The city and the tombs, the river and the desert, mingling forth life and death in perpetual contrast, and over all the unchangeable blue of the sky, diffused in and through the dazzling glory of that Egyptian sunset."

MONSIEUR CONSTANT leek Hanoi on the 21st ultimo for an excursion up the Black River. His first station was Phou-nam, after which he proceeded to Ché-Bé. On the return trip he called at Vietry and Sontay, where he inspected the fortifications.

A NUMBER of deaths of Europeans from small-pox are reported from Singapore. Amongst others, Marshall, the well-known jockey, succumbed to the terrible disease. He took ill on the afternoon of Friday, the 24th ult., and died the following morning.

SUPREME COURT.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

(Before Mr. A. J. Leach, Acting-Puisne Judge.)

TO KAI v. MOK LAI CHI, \$202.

The following judgment in this suit was delivered by His Honour Mr. Justice Leach this morning:—

The facts in this case are short and simple:—By Section 2 of the Public Gambling Amendment Ordinance, 1876, the word "gambling" includes amongst others the lottery known as pak-kop-piu. By Section 3, any person who keeps an agency for dealing in such lotteries is to forfeit a sum not exceeding \$200 on conviction. By Section 4 of the same Ordinance, section 17 of Ordinance No. 7 of 1886 is to apply to the "Public Gambling Amendment Ordinance 1876" and in lieu of the words "No. 14 of 1844" in the said section 17 "No. 9 of 1876" is to be substituted. Section 17 of Ordinance No. 7 of 1886 enacts that whenever a fine is imposed on any person resident in any house and not being a householder within the meaning of the ordinance for any violation of (amongst other ordinances) No. 9 of 1876, in default of recovery from the actual offender it may be recovered as therein mentioned from the householder. On the 6th September last one Ko Yau Man, residing at No. 314, Queen's Road Central, was convicted of keeping an agency for dealing in Pak-kop-piu lottery tickets in the colony, and he was fined \$200. On the same day a warrant to levy the fine by distress and sale of Ko Yau Man's goods and chattels was issued, and the execution thereof, as it transpires in evidence, entrusted to the defendant in this suit, who is usher at the Police Court. The plaintiff in this suit is tenant of the ground-floor of No. 314, Queen's Road Central, and Ko Yau Man is a tailor who occupies a room on the west side on the same floor, to use chiefly as a sleeping room at a rent of \$2 a month. He is admitted by the defendant, and indeed it could hardly be contested, that the plaintiff was not a "householder" within the meaning of section 2 of Ordinance No. 7 of 1886, and therefore, in case of default in payment of the fine imposed on Ko Yau Man, not within section 7 of the same Ordinance. The remaining portion of the ground-floor of No. 314, Queen's Road Central, was occupied thus: the west side of the front room by the plaintiff, who carries on the business of a shoemaker, and the east side of the front room together with the rest of the east side, of the ground floor by a tailor named Tang Yu Kai, who is also a sub-tenant of the plaintiff's. On the day the warrant was issued the defendant, accompanied by Ko Yau Man and a native constable or watchman proceeds to No. 314, Queen's Road Central, and there (to take his own evidence) tells the shopmen—the tailors and shoemakers—that Ko Yau Man had been fined \$200 for keeping lottery tickets, and if he could not pay, a distress would be levied, and believing the goods to be Ko Yau Man's he orders the shop to be shut. He makes no enquiries beyond going to Ko Yau Man's room, and notwithstanding the evidence of his own eyes that there were two different trades being followed in the front shop and that one of the shopmen asked if he might be permitted to remove his own goods, proceeds to take possession, having told the tailors and shoemakers collectively that if the fine was paid the shop would be re-opened, and according to the evidence of the plaintiff (who, however, the defendant positively states, was not present) that if the fine was not paid on the next day the goods would be sold on the day following. The plaintiff thereupon, urged by the tailor, and in order to get his and the tailor's shop re-opened, procures the necessary amount to cover the fine and expenses of execution, and the same afternoon pays it into the Magistrate's to the defendant's hands, and he now seeks to recover the money that was wrongfully extorted from him by illegal distress. The defence set up is that the payment was voluntary, and some suggestion was made that the plaintiff was implicated with Ko Yau Man, or must have known that the business he carried on was a lottery agency, but the only foundation for such a suggestion I can look at is the fact that, for nearly a year Ko Yau Man slept at No. 314, Queen's Road Central, and no action was taken or prosecution commenced against the plaintiff. For the defence, the Crown Solicitor (who appeared in his official capacity) cited *Valpy v. Stanley*, L. R. 12, Q. B. 594, and a native constable's judgment of Chief Justice Tindal at page 602. The question there was whether a payment made by the plaintiffs was voluntary or under a species of duress; and Chief Justice Tindal says at p. 601, "it seems to me that all the circumstances show that when the assignees made the payment they had just and reasonable ground for apprehending that the sheriff would proceed to a sale that might have operated injuriously to their interests unless the money were paid." The payment therefore was not voluntary, but was made for the purpose of averting a threatened evil. In this case the shop was actually closed—a present and pressing evil—aid the money paid to avert the threatened evil of a sale of the goods. How can it be said it was paid voluntarily? Nor is there any guidance from which I can gather that the plaintiff, in paying, intended to give up his rights within the rule laid down by Chief Justice Tindal at p. 603, where he states the rule to be that no action will lie where the payment is voluntary. I am fully alive to all the circumstances, and I am fully conscious that the goods of the plaintiff were being practically sold. It is to be hoped that by drawing attention to these facts greater care will in future be exercised both in the persons entrusted with warrants of distress and in the manner they are executed, and the defendant is lucky to escape with the refund of the money so wrongfully obtained under colour of legal process. The judgment is for the plaintiff, \$202 and costs.

THE HONGKONG HOTEL COMPANY, LIMITED.

The ordinary half-yearly meeting of the above Company, for the purpose of adopting the report and accounts for the six months ended 31st December, 1887, was held this afternoon at the Hotel. There were present:—Mr. D. McCulloch (Chairman), Messrs. W. Parfitt, A. dos Remedios and F. Doddwell (Directors), Mr. R. Lyall (Secretary), and the following shareholders:—J. Campos da Rosa, C. A. Ozorio, A. E. Vaucher, R. Howie, J. H. Cox and E. Jones Hughes.

The Secretary having read the notice convening the meeting, the Chairman said:—Gentlemen, The report having been in your hands for some days, with your permission we will take it as read. Some of you may look upon the net result of the past half-year as a poor one, but that was entirely owing to the few transient guests that came here during the first four months, probably caused by travellers being attracted to the London Jubilee celebrations. Since November last the Hotel has been doing an excellent business. The manager assures me that if the new wing had been ready by Christmas the whole of the Hotel up to date would have been full, as he has had many more applications for rooms than the number he has had at his disposal. The work of the new wing has been practically at a standstill since October 3rd, owing to the non-arrival of ironwork from England. This has now been received, and found to be satisfactory. The contractor is now engaged with the masonry, and the ceiling here during the first four months, probably caused by travellers being attracted to the London Jubilee celebrations. Since November last the Hotel has been doing an excellent business. The manager assures me that if the new wing had been ready by Christmas the whole of the Hotel up to date would have been full, as he has had many more applications for rooms than the number he has had at his disposal. The work of the new wing has been practically at a standstill since October 3rd, owing to the non-arrival of ironwork from England. This has now been received, and found to be satisfactory. The contractor is now engaged with the masonry, and the ceiling here during the first four months, probably caused by travellers being attracted to the London Jubilee celebrations. Since November last the Hotel has been doing an excellent business. 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